

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. to 22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) A microwaveable vacuum skin package comprising:

- a) a support member having an upper surface and a lower surface;
- b) a bottom web having an upper surface and a lower surface, the lower surface of the bottom web being adhered to the upper surface of the support member;
- c) a food product disposed on the upper surface of the bottom web; and
- d) a top web disposed on the food product;

wherein the top web of the vacuum skin package is draped over the food product, by a vacuum skin packaging process, such that the top web substantially conforms to the shape of the food product and a vacuum skin package is thereby produced;

wherein the top web of the vacuum skin package is sealed at its lower surface to the upper surface of the bottom web to form a seal at a location outside the periphery of the food product;

wherein the top web of the vacuum skin package comprises a sealant layer comprising an ethylene/alpha olefin copolymer; and

wherein the bottom web of the vacuum skin package comprises a sealant layer consisting essentially of a blend of

- i) between 60% and 90%, by weight of the sealant layer, of ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and
- ii) between 10% and 40%, by weight of the sealant layer, of ~~polypropylene~~ propylene homopolymer or propylene/ethylene copolymer.

24. (canceled)

25. (new) The microwaveable vacuum skin package of claim 23 wherein the bottom web of the vacuum skin package comprises a single sealant layer adapted to be adhered to the sealant layer of the top web.

26. (new) The microwaveable vacuum skin package of claim 23 wherein the support member comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polystyrene, polyamide, 1,4- polymethylpentene, and crystallized polyethylene terephthalate.

27. (new) The microwaveable package of claim 23 wherein the top web of the vacuum skin package comprises:

- a) a sealant layer comprising an ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer; and
- b) an oxygen barrier layer comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer, vinylidene chloride copolymer, polyamide, and polyester.

28. (new) The microwaveable package of claim 23 wherein the bottom web of the vacuum skin package comprises:

- a) a sealant layer comprising a blend of:
  - i) between 60% and 90%, by weight of the sealant layer, of ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and
  - ii) between 10% and 40%, by weight of the sealant layer, of propylene homopolymer or propylene/ethylene copolymer; and
- b) an oxygen barrier layer comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer, vinylidene chloride copolymer, polyamide, and polyester.

29. (new) The microwaveable package of claim 23 wherein the ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer comprises ethylene/ 1-octene copolymer.